

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

NAVY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CENTER 2510 WALMER AVENUE NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23513-2617

> NAVENVIRHLTCENINST 5720.1A CS 24 NOV 1998

#### **NAVENVIRHLTHCEN INSTRUCTION 5720.1A**

From: Commanding Officer, Navy Environmental Health Center

Subj: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) PROGRAM

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5720.42E

## 1. Purpose

- a. To ensure that the Navy Environmental Health Center (NAVENVIRHLTHCEN) and all its Echelon 4 activities comply with reference (a).
- b. To provide standards and guidance for responding to all inquiries involving the FOIA program.
- 2. <u>Background</u>. The public has a right to information concerning the activities of its government, and DON policy is to make its records available to requesters under the FOIA program.
- 3. Cancellation. NAVENVIRHLTHCENINST 5720.1

#### 4. Action

- a. The Commanding Officer and/or Officer in Charge must ensure that the following actions are taken:
- (1) Appoint an individual in the command as coordinator to serve as the principal point of contact for the FOIA program.
  - b. The command FOIA coordinator shall:
    - (1) Provide training for personnel on the provisions of reference (a).
- (2) Ensure that procedures for receiving, tracking, labeling, and prompt handling are done in accordance with reference (a).
- (3) If appropriate, formally transfer case cognizance to NAVENVIRHLTHCEN or to Bureau of Medicine and Surgery's Staff Judge Advocate, as appropriate.

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(4) Compile input and submit annual FOIA report to NAVENVIRHLTHCEN FOIA coordinator who, in turn, will provide consolidated report to BUMED.

Distribution: (NAVENVIRHLTHCENINST 5215.2P)

List VI (All NAVENVIRHTHCEN Personnel)

VI (NAVENPVNTMEDUs)

VII (NAVDISVECTECOLCONCEN)

VIII (NAVENVIRHLTHCEN DET)

IX (NAVDRUGLABs)